Dear Sam, 5/25/92

Knowing we were to be visited today by a friend bringing his two wonderful little boys I set today aside for catching up on mail. Well,,prehaps you and Joe may be interested in the brdeth of our acquaintanceships and friendships this and today reflect. The German editor or reporter of the German edition of Penthouse International wrote a letter about me and what I've brought to light to Der Spiegel and Penthouse International's US rep, a bright and fine woman, sent me a copy with a letter I had to answer. Did just before this. Although it is a holiday I also was sought out for advice ~~for~~ by someone working for Frontline. and then this man walks in with a visible holstered pistol and what we'd never seen him in a beard. (Looks good on him, too!) He is a criminologist with the Baltimore police and I'd thought had only an office job. And in denims and a work shirt. When I expressed surprise about the revolver he laughed and said he'd never seen him unarmed but when he is dressed as he usually is he carries his smaller weapon, an automatic pistol. Then he showed me a paging device. He has been working 30 miles or more west of here and that worked. He is always on call. And the getup and beard are because he is parttime back on the street in a (dope) case he is working on. For this he went to college and got a master's degree? His wife is a lawyer, managing the office of a large firm. Probably had to work today. They are at least as good as parents as the best I've known. They devote themeselves to the boys, who reflect it. I asked the younger one what books he has read since Ben Hur and I did not get the titles, dead hearing-aid battery. While he and I were talking the boys went down to the pond and returned with a bullfrog sitting on the hand of the 10- or 11-year old! Who later returned it to the pond. They eat too many costly bugs that have to be bought. This man, David, is thinking of retiring early so he can spend more time with the boys and doing other things, including relieving his wife of some of her family burdens. How many men today think that what their wives do is more important, or their careers more promising, and are willing to retire young in their interest and that of children? Really two fine people and we are quite fond of each other.

Our yesterday's guest was an army colonel whose work in the army is classified. All I know about it is that he is never without his satellite phone. He called us from it from the west coast last week to make the date. He also was going to retire so he could devote himself to other interests, including aspects of the JFK assassinatuon, but the day before his retirement Cheney told him he was needed for another year. So, he and I worked on what he is interested in a large part of ~~yx~~ Saturday. Not yesterday. About which he also called me today and I've something to mail to him in the morning ready to go.

So, the people with whom we have varying degrees of association and friendship through my work cover the bredth of just about every spectrum, including political. And I get the nicest and most flattering letters from strangers quite often.

It is a little tzmished here today because Sammy, Alma's husband and your former Lombard Street neighbor, died. Lil is waiting for Alma's call on the schedule so she and

younger sister, who is good friends with Alma, can made plans. I won't go. Funerals and services atop the trip when the trip alone is too much for me and when I can't stand still for more than seconds I don't risk.

Atop your letter of the 19th because I'd gotten it earlier was a silly card from Lerner at Tikkun, who signs himself, believe it or not, PhD! I'll make a copy and include it. This means, if I can take what he says seriously, that the timing on your letter is good. He made no promises. But if he does what he says he will do my time was not wasted.

As you will see, I've taken on the Times, which was sneaky/dirty and very wrong in attacking me and in displaying remarkable ignorance in so doing. And I'm preparing to do the same with the AMA when I have their article and press kit and conference.

I tell you, this variety of momsers is lucky I'm 79 instead of 69! ...

As you begin, when you wrote the Orioles were atop their league. Also with the best all-around record in all leagues. Only to go into a slump that, happily, coincided with one by the Jays, so after falling into second as of last night the Os were again in first.

I hope I sent you what I intended to send you, a thoughtful column by Tom Boswell. He says what Mil (my in-house maven) and I have long thought.

Your next reference is medical. A week from tomorrow I get the results of the newest sleep apnea tests, at the research branch of Johns Hopkins. But, thankfully, we are no worse than we were and if I can stay as able as I remain with my health no worse I'll be very, very happy.

You say you won't not mind Rabin winning. All in all I'd prefer it. The one fear I have is that he might give the Arabs a state in a small part of the territories. If he must and it is limited to Gaza, OK. But their record is don't let them see a finger or you'll have no toes. Or anything else. Shamir's firmness of this, which I regard as basic, is the only thing about him I can recall that I do not disapprove. But the Arabs have precipitated another bloodbath and I fear that may work in Shamir's favor rather than the reported Arab purpose, to favor the left. Rabin isn't left anyway.

The Bushwacking scandals are a national disgrace but it remains to be seen whether they have any influence in the election. Helping either Iran or Iraq was the worst policy. ...If he doesn't have the votes going into the convention it may go for Cuomo, at least a more experienced problem-facer with much good in his record and no scandals (yet?). That a Perot could do what he has done is adequate or better commentary on our major media. .. It wasn't the FBI decision to "release more JFK stuff" but the CIA's and as you'll see that is a farce and a fraud I've addressed.

Joe has been silent. I hope it is that he has been busy with and on family things and the like. I suppose Mil will see him tomorrow. Our best to you all,

Harold